Losses in PSUs

1610. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item published in the Economic Times, dated 21st November, 1998 captioned "public sector runs up losses of Rs. two lakh crore in 1985—97";

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) what remedial meaures Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The methodology adopted for computation of losses, as indicated in the news item in Economic Times of 21.11.98, cannot be applied on PSEs, besides it being not an ordinarily accepted commerical practice. As per Public Enterprises Survey the total losses by loss making CPSUs during 1985—97 is Rs. 41133.45 crores.

(c) The steps taken for further improving performance of CPSUs are enterprise specific. However, some of the general steps taken include professionalisation of Board of management, periodic performance review, signing of MOUs, technology upgradation, organisational and capital restructuring, formation of joint ventures etc.

Guidelines followed by FIPB

1611. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the role of FIPB in promoting entry of foreign capital;

(b) whether any guidelines exist to protect the non-core sector;

(c) the details of such guidelines;

(d) whether these guidelines have been amended recently; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) to (e) The Foreign Investment Promotion Board, which is a high powered inter-ministerial committee has been set up with the objective of promoting inflow of foreign direct investment (FDI) into India—(i) by undertaking investment promotion activities; and (ii) through facilitating investment in the country by international companies, non-resident Indians (NRIs) and other foreign investors in projects which are considerd to be of benefit to the Indian economy but do not qualify for automatic approval by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and/or are outside the parameters of the existing policy for clearance of investment proposals. The Board, inter-alia, ensures expeditious clearance of the foreign direct investment proposals; periodically reviews the implementation of FDI projects; undertakes review of a continuous basis of the general and sectoral policy regimes based on sectoral sensitivities relating to Foreign direct investment (FDI) in consultation with Administrative Ministries and other concerned agencies and evolves a set of transparent guidelines for facilitating foreign investment in various sectors.

A comprehensive set of guideline for the consideration of FDI proposals by the FIBP, which are already in place, provide for a time-bound, transparent and non-discriminatory approval procedure.

Review/update of these guidelines is a continuous process based on sectoral policies decided in consultation with the concerned Administrative Ministries.

Performance of PSUs

1612. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed the performances of the Public Sector paper units in the country;

(b) if so, the production and export performance of each such PSU including Hindustran Paper Corporation during the last three years; and

(c) the details thereof, alongwith the projection made till 2000 A.D.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL): (a) The performance of Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd. (HPC) and NEPA Ltd., the Central Public Sector Undertakings, engaged in the production of paper and newsprint are reviewed on a regular basis.

(b) and (c) The production and Export performance of these undertakings during the last three years and the projections for 1998-99 and 1999-2000 are:—

Production (Metric Tonnes)	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
		Actual		Projection	
NEPA LTD (Newsprint)	62113	17523	37592	65833	70000
HPC (Units) (Paper)	152870	144933	138686	145000	150000
Subsidiaries of HPC					
(i) MANDYA NATIONAL PAPER MILLS LTD. (MNPM) (PAPER)	—	—	1213	652	—
(ii) NAGALAND PULP & PAPER CO. LTD. (NPPC) (PAPER)	—	—	—	—	—
(iii) HINDUSTAN NEWSPRINT ltd. (HNL) (NEWSPRINT)	101111	70287	85038	100000	100000
EXPORT	5721	10132	1353	3000	4000
HPC					
HNL	346	514	500	—	—

आॅटोमोबाइल और सीमेंट क्षेत्रों में मंदी

1613. **श्री जनेश्वर मिश्रः** क्या उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे किः

(क) क्या यह सच है कि आॅटोमोबाइल और सीमेंट क्षेत्र में भारी मंदी है तथा सरकार इस मंदी से इन्हें उबारने के लिये उत्पाद शुल्क में कमी करने जा रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उक्त शुल्क में कमी का ब्यौरा क्या है तथा इसका राजस्व संग्रह पर क्या असर पड़ेगा;

(ग) क्या सिर्फ उत्पाद शुल्क को कम करने से यह उद्योग फलने-फूलने लगेंगे;

(घ) यदि हां, तो ऐसा किस प्रकार संभव होगा; और

(ङ) यदि नहीं, तो सरकार दूसरे कौन से उपाय कर रही है?

उद्योग मंत्री (श्री सिकन्दर बख्त): (क) से (ङ) यह सही है कि पिछले दो वर्षों में विशेष रूप से आटोमोबाइल उद्योग के वाणिज्यिक वाहन क्षेत्र में मांग